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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY China

SUBJECT Regional Reshuffling of Scientific Personnel

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2. As a result of growing dissatisfaction, evidence of sabotage and leakage of scientific information, a new government program has been announced for the regional reshuffling of university graduates in scientific fields. That is, chemical and industrial engineers, doctors, nutrition experts, nurses and so on, who have lived or worked in one area long enough to have put down roots or to have developed lasting ties, will now be uprooted and assigned to areas where they are unknown.

3. [] this program is the direct result of current dissatisfaction evidenced by scientific personnel on the mainland with the scientific program enforced by the Communist government. [] patriotic enthusiasm in this group has waned to the vanishing point and [] only their extreme fear of retaliation and reprisal, coupled with a typical Chinese fatalism, has prevented a mass defection. []

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4. [] the Wuhan area [] fourth and fifth year medical students, engineers and nurses were sent into the area by train and were greeted with wild enthusiasm two stations away from Hankow

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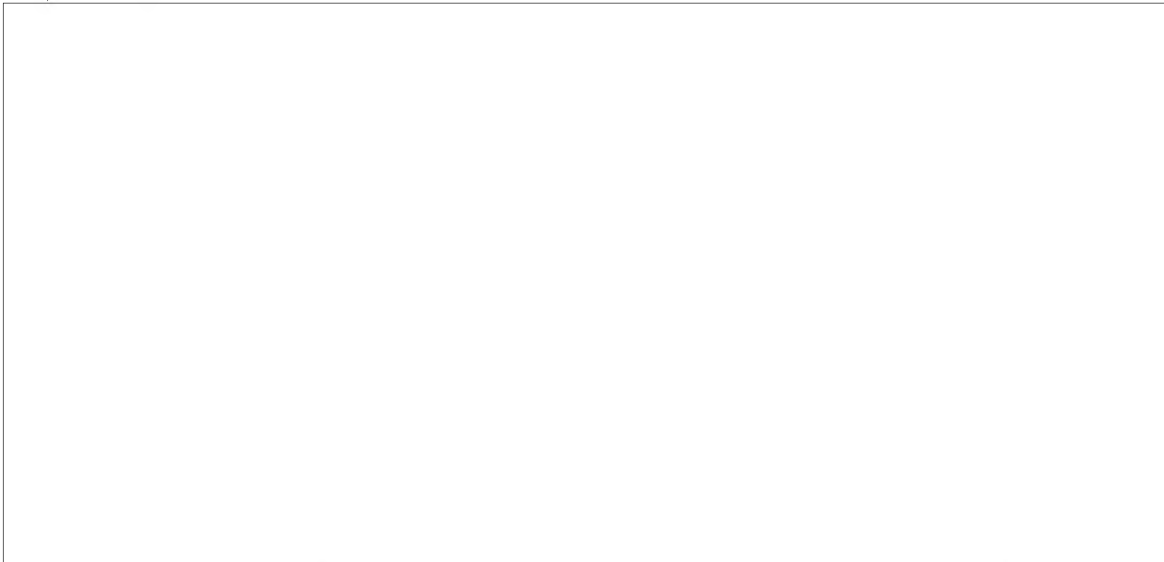


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(the tracks were apparently washed out from that point on). They were met by the local heads of labor unions, and by flowery speeches of welcome from local officials. High hopes in the area died abruptly however as it became quickly obvious to all that the rescue organization lacked the equipment, the brains or the know-how to administer the desperately needed relief. The inability of Communist health authorities to control or to check the outbreak of typhoid, cholera and dysentery [redacted] added impetus to the mounting wave of anti-government reaction: the reshuffle of scientific personnel is believed to have been designed as the only possible counter-measure for the prevention of defections and the organization of anti-government underground units.

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